

Around DCMA



DCMA/ASC Key Billet Director Pilot Program

SEPTEMBER – DCMA recently signed a memorandum of agreement with the Army Acquisition Support Center beginning a program selecting the best military and civilian personnel for acquisition key billet director Central Select List (CSL) positions. The program aligns DCMA's candidate selection process with the Army acquisition project/program manager selection process, which allows Army civilians to compete on equal footing with their military counterparts on particular acquisition positions. The program begins with candidates competing for two pilot positions at DCMA offices in Sealy, Texas, and Minneapolis, Minn. This is the first time DCMA's civilian employees — and all Department of Defense (DoD) civilians — have an opportunity to compete for key billet director CSL positions alongside their military colleagues. By opening the program to all DoD civilians, DCMA and the Army will get the best candidates for acquisition positions and provide even better support to the warfighters.



Proposal Evaluation Presentation

A Decent Proposal

SEPT. 28-29 – Air Force Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cost and Economics Richard K. Hartley (center) visited Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., Stratford, Conn. Mr. Hartley identified estimating and proposal issues and offered solutions during a presentation for government and contractor representatives, which included Sikorsky Aircraft Vice President Paul W. Martin (left). Mr. Hartley is the author of an article titled “What are Quality Cost Estimates?” published in the summer 2006 edition of the *Journal of Parametrics*. The article asserts that the use of commercially available “black box” cost models “must incorporate ... relevant prior experience, preferably relevant and reliable historical program cost and technical data.” Discussing the event, Navy Capt. Dorothy J. Freer (right), DCMA Sikorsky Aircraft commander, said, “The government needs to be able to realistically evaluate proposals it receives from contractors. Mr. Hartley offered ideas to both government and contractor representatives on how proposals should be evaluated.” (by Mr. Walt Zaborowski, contract administrator, DCMA Sikorsky; photo by Mr. Greg Kiviat, Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation)

Navy Secretary on Deck

OCT. 12 – Secretary of the Navy Dr. Donald C. Winter (third from left) visited Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation in Stratford, Conn. Secretary Winter received a tour of the helicopter manufacturer's facilities and was briefed on many items, including the Navy and Marine Corps MH-60S, MH-60R and CH-53K helicopter programs. Secretary Winter also discussed the Sikorsky Aircraft workers' strike in spring 2006 and its effects on production, workforce demographics, supply chain management and implementation of lean manufacturing. Navy Capt. Dorothy J. Freer (second from right), DCMA Sikorsky Aircraft commander, accompanied Dr. Winter during his visit. "The Navy is one of Sikorsky's major customers. The secretary's visit is one part of a plan to promote delivery of quality products on time and within budget," said Capt. Freer. Also in attendance during Secretary Winter's visit were Mr. Joseph Haddock, Sikorsky (left); Mr. Tom Laux, Navy program executive officer for air, antisubmarine warfare, assault, and special missions (second from left); Mr. Jeffrey Pino, Sikorsky Aircraft president (third from right); and Mr. Paul Martin, senior vice president – programs, Sikorsky Aircraft (right). (by Mr. Walt Zaborowski, contract administrator, DCMA Sikorsky; photo courtesy of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation)



Dr. Winter Visits Sikorsky



Raytheon McKinney, Texas

DCMA Texas Hosts Interns

NOV. 13-16 – Army Col. Joseph Bass, DCMA Texas commander, welcomed Mr. John Williams, Army Materiel Command Logistics Leadership Center course director, and 24 quality assurance specialist (QAS) interns from the Red River Army Depot, Texarkana, Texas, to Raytheon's Network Centric Systems facility in McKinney, Texas. The interns visited the Raytheon facility to learn about DCMA's mission and responsibilities in supporting the warfighter. The four-day orientation included briefings, discussions and activities related to performance-based management; resident and non-resident quality assurance (QA); administrative contracting officer, engineering and industrial specialist responsibilities; risk assessment; product assurance; and federal acquisition regulations. DCMA personnel provided briefings on wide area workflow and electronic data access automated document systems. The ways in which DCMA assists

the buying command/program offices in the program life cycle were also discussed, and Raytheon's QA department provided a presentation on its QA operations and a tour of its facilities. The Army interns shadowed the DCMA QASs as they performed their duties on the manufacturing floor. They toured the plant's clean room to observe an advanced targeting, forward-looking infrared system test, visited the test tower, witnessed system demonstrations and observed a test on the APS-137 radar antenna. (by Ms. Katherine Beal, Student Career Experience Program intern – contracting, DCMA Texas; photo courtesy of Raytheon: Raytheon's Primary Surveillance Radar, the ASR-10SS, with co-mounted monopulse secondary surveillance radar produced at Raytheon's Network Centric Systems facility in McKinney, Texas.)

Marine Corps 231st Birthday Celebration

NOV. 19 – DCMA Bell Helicopter celebrated the 231st birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps. Each year, DCMA Bell Helicopter celebrates this date in honor of past and present Marines and their families, who have provided undying support and devotion to those who serve our country. Marine Corps Col. Nicholas Hall, DCMA Bell Helicopter commander, opened the ceremony by welcoming all Marines and Bell Helicopter guests. He then read messages from Gen. Mike Hagee, 33rd commandant of the Marine Corps, and the late Lt. Gen. John A. Lejuene, 13th commandant. At the completion of the reading, the national anthem and “The Marines’ Hymn” were played, and Col. Hall cut the traditional birthday cake. The first slice was set aside for the commandant, and the second and third slices went to the oldest and youngest Marines present. Col. Hall concluded the ceremony by once again thanking all attendees and inviting everyone to indulge in cake and punch. *Semper Fidelis*. (by Ms. Audrey Yackel, industrial specialist, DCMA Bell Helicopter)



Happy Birthday U.S.M.C.



DCMA APO – Rolls Royce Team

School Supplies for Iraqi Children

NOV. 22 – Nine boxes of school supplies and sports equipment were shipped to Army Lt. Col. Robert Hearvin in Iraq thanks to the efforts of the DCMA Aircraft Propulsion Operations (APO) – Rolls Royce team in Indianapolis (shown at left with some of their donated supplies). When Air Force Maj. Gilberto Rosario (front row, second from right), DCMA APO – Rolls Royce commander, heard of Lt. Col. Hearvin’s request for assistance for poor Iraqi schoolchildren, he immediately knew his team would step up to the challenge. Lt. Col. Hearvin is assigned to the 3rd Division Headquarters in Al Kisek, Iraq, and while conducting ground operations he became aware of the dismal condition of the local school. He decided to send out a request for school supplies. The DCMA team in Indianapolis immediately began collecting basic school materials and several weeks later accumulated over 140 pounds of notebooks, pencils, rulers, construction paper, markers and other school supplies. These

supplies were combined with items donated by fourth grade students at Forest Dale Elementary School in Carmel, Ind., and Ms. Cam Amos, a local teacher and wife of one of the DCMA APO – Rolls Royce team members, Mr. Paul Amos. The team also included many soccer balls and manual inflation pumps donated by team member Mr. Bob Unger, as well as small trophies. The DCMA APO – Rolls Royce team was pleased with the opportunity to answer Lt. Col. Hearvin’s request to make a contribution to support our troops and the children of Iraq. If you wish to contribute to Lt. Col. Hearvin’s efforts, he can be contacted at: Lt. Col. Robert Hearvin, HQ 3rd Div MiTT, Al Kisek, APO AE 09334 or via e-mail at: ltcbob1973@yahoo.com. (by Air Force Maj. Gilberto Rosario, commander, DCMA APO – Rolls Royce)

We Are the Hope

DECEMBER 2006 – DCMA St. Petersburg successfully completed its 2006 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), achieving 121 percent of its goal and “be[ing] the hope” to the many charities in need. Key campaign workers knew the goal was aggressive — DCMA St. Petersburg had 17 fewer employees in 2006, including three fewer eagle donors (\$1,000+). However, through the hard work of Ms. Marina Walton, CFC coordinator, and key workers Mr. John Carsow, Ms. Caroline Cumberbatch, Ms. Pam Daily, Ms. Melanie Kordana, Mr. Tony Loureiro, Ms. Abigail Santiago, Ms. Lisa Schutt and Ms. Samantha Wilson, the goal was surpassed. Eighty-two employees — approximately 65 percent of the office (a DCMA St. Petersburg record) — participated in the 2006 campaign. In total there were 10 eagle donors, the highest number in DCMA St. Petersburg’s history (pictured at right), 14 silver donors (\$500 – \$999) and 24 bronze donors (\$250 – \$499). Ms. Walton received a certificate of appreciation from Ms. Suzanne Jene, a CFC officer. In the letter accompanying the certificate, Ms. Jene thanked her and the key workers for their assistance in reaching the overall CFC goal of \$2 million. (by Ms. Melanie Kordana, DCMA St. Petersburg)



CFC Eagle Donors



UH-72A Lakota

DCMA Texas Supports Delivery of Army’s Newest ‘Chopper’

DEC. 11 – The first production model of the Army’s newest twin-engine helicopter — the light utility UH-72A *Lakota* — was delivered to the Army. Mr. Robert W. Schmitt (left), DCMA Aeronautical Systems Division director, accepted delivery of the aircraft from EADS North America Co. in a ceremony at the EADS plant in Columbus, Miss. Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Richard A. Cody accepted the aircraft on behalf of the Army in a ceremonial passing of the keys and logbook from Mr. Schmitt. The special guest at the ceremony was Chief Joe Red Cloud of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Lakota Nation. The new UH-72A continues the Army’s tradition of using American Indian names for its helicopters. The Lakota were stalwart defenders of their homeland, and the new helicopter was named in recognition of its homeland security mission. The *Lakota* is a modified

commercial helicopter, which will fly civil search and rescue operations and personnel recovery, evacuation, counter-drug and limited civil command and control operation missions in non-combat environments. The *Lakota* replaces the aging OH-58 *Kiowa* and UH-1 *Iroquois* helicopters. DCMA Texas is administering the \$2 billion contract that will produce 322 aircraft over a 10-year period. The majority of the new helicopters will be assigned to the Army National Guard. The DCMA Texas program support team was instrumental in assisting the Army’s UH-72A program office achieve on-time delivery of the first aircraft. Also representing DCMA at the ceremony were, from left: Army Col. Joe Bass, DCMA Texas commander; Ms. Lisa Lasater, DCMA Texas administrative contracting officer; Mr. Bruce Whitaker, DCMA Huntsville customer liaison representative; Mr. Ron Hitchner, DCMA North Texas – Oklahoma – Arkansas commander; and Mr. Michael Shipman, DCMA Texas UH-72A program integrator. (by Michael L. Shipman, program integrator, DCMA Texas)

Toys for Tots

DEC. 12 – Marines of the 4th Landing Support Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces Reserve, Instructor-Inspector Staff, Lathrop, visited DCMA Northern California (pictured at right with DCMA Northern California employees). Their mission was to receive over 383 toys, games, kites, skates and bicycles donated by the DCMA Northern California employees in the offices at Lathrop, Roseville and Sunnyvale. Marine Staff Sgt. Omar Khweiss and his crew accepted the donations for the children of the local community in Manteca, Calif. Collecting Toys for Tots has been a DCMA Northern California tradition for the past five years. Mr. Rolf Johnsen, DCMA Northern California supply chain manager and retired Marine Corps member, has organized the successful efforts and encouraged the employees of a Lathrop office neighbor, the General Services Administration (GSA), to begin collecting toys. Next year DCMA Northern California wants to influence the Army and Air Force Exchange Service employees, located on site in Lathrop, to participate as well. (by Mr. John R. Enger, chief of DLA support and assessment, DCMA Northern California)



collecting Toys



A New Toy for a Tot

The Joy of Giving

DECEMBER 2006 – The employees of DCMA St. Petersburg, Fla., made sure many families who could not afford gifts still had an extra special holiday season. DCMA “St. Pete” once again participated in the Marine Corps’ annual Toys for Tots campaign and also sponsored a family of seven foster children. The DCMA St. Pete family has participated in the Toys for Tots campaign each year for several years. Operations team leader Ms. Michelle Myhree, with the assistance of numerous DCMA employees, collected new, unwrapped toys for needy children. This year, two large boxes were filled with toys. The command also provided gifts for a local family. Joan, the head of this family, is called “mom” by seven foster children: nine-month-old Alyssa; two-year-old Emily; two-and-one-half-year-old Sean; three-and-one-half-year-old Shelby; four-and-one-half-year-olds James (shown at left) and Henry; and five-year-old Nicki. The children were asked to provide a “wish list,” which was distributed throughout DCMA St. Pete by Ms. Jeanette

Murphy, procurement technician, and Ms. Sally Kaborycha, industrial specialist. The response was tremendous. Several boxes of toys were collected and gift wrapped by several DCMA St. Pete employees. The family was then invited to DCMA St. Petersburg to receive their gifts. Joan and the children were overjoyed with the outpouring of gifts. (by Ms. Melanie Kordana, DCMA St. Petersburg; photo by Ms. Abigail Santiago)

Keystone Interns Visit the Pentagon

JAN. 11 – The DCMA Naval Sea Systems and Aeronautical Systems Divisions jointly arranged for their Keystone Program interns to visit the Pentagon as a professional development opportunity. DCMA Maryland assumed the lead, orchestrating the event as a way for the interns to learn more about the Department of Defense, its headquarters and how the procurement policy process works at the highest level. Contracting and property interns from both DCMA Maryland and DCMA Northrop Grumman Baltimore were accompanied by Army Col. Jack Cunnane, DCMA Maryland commander; Ms. Letitia Proctor, Keystone Program coordinator; and Ms. Marcella Parish, Contract Operations group chief. The interns were appreciative of the opportunity to observe how the vast defense community works together to support the warfighter. Interns, back row, from left: Ms. Julie Felent, Ms. Lindsay Smardon, Mr. Tom McKay, Mr. Jeff Norris, Ms. Sherice Perry and Ms. Natalia Torchia; front row, from left: Ms. Chantelle Britain, Ms. Nicole Parish, Ms. Gloria Atkins, Ms. Karen Kornbau and Ms. Sarah Downs. (by Ms. Lindsay Smardon and Mr. Thomas McKay, Keystone Program interns, DCMA Maryland; photo by Army Col. Jack Cunnane, DCMA Maryland)



Keystone Interns



Learning at Lunchtime

Brown Bag Courses from DAU

JAN. 29 – DCMA's Space & Missile Systems Division, in conjunction with Defense Acquisition University (DAU), presented the first in a series of video courses. Popularly known as "brown bag" courses because they occur at lunchtime, the first course was presented from the video teleconference center at DCMA's western headquarters in Carson, Calif., and drew 129 attendees (some of whom are pictured at left). After a short introduction by Mr. Randy Sawlsville, DCMA Space & Missile Systems Division deputy director, the instruction began. Lean/Six Sigma was the subject, and Mr. Martin Sherman, DAU's director of the Lean Learning Center of Excellence, was the instructor. He is responsible for Lean/Six Sigma efforts within DAU and is the liaison between the university and the acquisition, technology and logistics workforce for training and performance support in the various continuous process improvement initiatives. Lean

and Six Sigma are continuous process improvement techniques. Lean is one methodology, with the goals of eliminating waste, reducing cycle times and complexity and focusing process scope. Its application promises to provide immediate improvement. The other part of the equation, Six Sigma, focuses on process management. For those who were unable to catch the live presentation, a tape of the session was shown Feb. 7 at the DCMA Carson, Calif., office. The subject and schedule for a second class have yet to be finalized. (by Mr. Sam Rousso, DCMA Public Affairs)